

Appendix A

Criteria for Control of Vapors from Gasoline Transfer to Storage Tanks

I. Drop Tube Specifications. Submerged fill is specifically required. The drop tube must extend to within 15.24 cm (6 in.) of the tank bottom.

II. Vapor Hose Return. Vapor return line and any manifold must be minimum 7.6 cm (3 in.) ID. All tanks must be provided with individual overfill protection. (Liquid must not be allowed in the vent line or vapor recovery line.) Disconnect on liquid line should assure that all liquid in the hose is drained into the storage tank. The requirements for overfill protection as specified may be waived for existing storage tanks when it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the appropriate local Fire Marshal, and where applicable, the State Oil Inspection Office that the installation of overfill protection devices on existing tanks is physically not possible.

III. Size of Vapor Line Connections. For separate vapor lines, nominal three inch (7.6 cm) or larger connections must be utilized at the storage tank and truck. However, short lengths of 2-inch (5.1 cm) vertical pipe no greater than 91.4 cm (3 ft.) long are permissible if the fuel delivery rate is less than 400 gallons per minute.

Where concentric (coaxial) connections are utilized, a 45 cm² (7 sq. in.) area for vapor return shall be provided. Four-inch concentric designs are acceptable only when using a venturi-shaped outer tube or where normal drop rate of 1,700 liters per minute (450 gpm) is reduced by at least 25%. Six-inch (15.24 cm) risers should be installed in new stations with concentric connections.

IV. Type of Liquid Fill Connection. Vapor tight caps are required for the liquid fill connection for all systems. A positive closure utilizing a gasket is necessary to prevent vapors from being emitted at ground level. Cam-lock closures meet this requirement. Dry break closures are preferred.

V. Tank Truck Inspection. Tank trucks are specifically required to be vapor-tight and to have valid leak-tight certification. The visual inspection procedure must be conducted at least once every six months to ensure properly operating manifolding and relief valves, using the test procedure of Appendix D.B.

VI. Dry Break on Underground Tank Vapor Riser. Dry-break closures are required to assure transfer of displaced vapors to the truck and to prevent ground-level, gasoline-vapor emissions caused by failure to connect the vapor return line to the underground tanks (closure on riser to mate with opening on hose). These devices keep the tank sealed until the hose is connected to the underground tank. Concentric couplers without dry-breaks are required to have a dry-break on the vapor line connection to the coupler itself, rather than on the rise pipe from the storage tank. The liquid fill riser should be provided with a gap having a positive closure (threaded or latched).

VII. Equipment Ensuring Vapor-Hose Connection During Gasoline Deliveries. An equipment system aboard the tank truck shall insure (barring deliberate tampering) that a vapor return hose is connected from the truck's vapor return line to the tank receiving gasoline.

VIII. Vent Line Restriction Devices. Vent line restriction devices are required. They both improve recovery efficiency and, as an integral part of any system, assure that the vapor return line is connected during transfer. If the liquid fill line were attached to the underground tank and the vapor return line were disconnected, then dry break closures would seal the vapor return path to the truck, forcing all vapors out the vent line. In such instances, a restriction device on this vent line greatly reduces fill rate, warning the operator that the vapor line is not connected. Both of the following devices must be used.

(a) An orifice of one-half to three-fourth inch (1.25 - 1.9 cm) ID.

(b) A pressure/vacuum relief valve set to open at (1) a positive gauge-pressure greater or equal to five inches of water (9 torr) and at (2) a negative gauge-pressure greater or equal to five inches of water (9 torr).

IX. Fire and Safety Regulations. All new or modified installations must comply in their entirety with all code requirements including NFPA, Pamphlet 30 (fiberglass is preferred for new manifold lines). For any questions concerning compliance, please contact State Oil Inspection or your local Fire Marshal.

X. State Oil Inspection. Requirements of the State Oil Inspection office make accurate measurements of the liquid in the underground tank necessary. Vapor-tight gauging devices will be required in all systems designed such that a pressure other than atmospheric will be held or maintained in the storage tank. The volume of liquid in the tanks maintained at atmospheric pressure may be determined with a stick through the submerged drop tube or through a separate submerged gauging tube extending to within 15.24 cm (6 in.) of the tank bottom.